

**The
Random House
College
Dictionary**
REVISED EDITION

tionary

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or

**Based on The
Random House
Dictionary of the
English Language**

THE UNABRIDGED EDITION

JESS STEIN • EDITOR IN CHIEF

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fillister

philippe to make a signal or sound with thumb and right forefinger; appar. special use of name *Philip*. See *FLIP*.
fil-lis-ter (fil'li star), n. Carpentry. 1. a rabbit or groove, as one on a window sash to hold the glass and putty. 2. Also called *fil/lister plane*, a plane for cutting rabbits or grooves. Also, *fillister*. [7]
fil/lister head, a cylindrical screwhead. See *illus.* at *new*.

Fill-more (fil'môr, -môr), n. Mill-lard (mil'ard), 1800-74. 13th president of the United States 1850-53.

fil-ly (fil'li), n., pl. -lies. 1. a young female horse. 2. Informal, a girl. [late ME *fyly* < Scand; cf. Icel *fylla* female foal]

film (film), n. 1. a thin layer or coating; a film of grease. 2. *Photog.* a cellulose nitrate or cellulose acetate composition made in thin sheets or strips and coated with a sensitive emulsion for taking photographs. b. a sheet, strip, or roll of this. 3. *Motion Pictures.* a. a reel of motion-picture film. b. See *motion picture*. 4. films, a. motion pictures collectively. b. the motion-picture industry. 5. a thin skin or membrane. 6. a delicate web of filaments or fine threads. 7. a thin haze, blur, or mist. —r.f. 8. to cover with a film, or to photograph. 9. *Motion Pictures.* a. to reproduce in the form of motion pictures; to film a novel. —r.f. 10. to become covered by a film. 11. *Motion Pictures.* a. to be adaptable for filming. b. to engage in the production of motion pictures. [ME *filme*, OE *filmen* membrane; akin to *RELL*]

film clip, Television, a strip of motion-picture film used in a telecast, esp. as supplementary material in a live program.

film-dom (film'dam), n. the realm of motion pictures; the motion-picture industry or its personnel. Also called *film-land*.

film-strip (film'strip'), n. a length of film containing a series of still pictures or frames for projection on a screen.

film-y (fil'mî), adj., film-i-er, film-i-est. of the nature of, resembling, or covered with a film. —film'i-ly, adv.

fil-o-plume (fil'ploom', fil'la), n. Ornith. a specialized, hairlike feather having a slender shaft with few or no barbs. [cf. NL *filopluma*. See *FIL*, -o-, -plume]

fil-lose (fil'los), adj. 1. threadlike. 2. ending in a threadlike process. —r.f. 1. *fil(um)* a thread + -ose]

fil (fil), n., pl. *filas*. 1. a bronze coin of Iraq and Jordan, the thousandth part of a dinar. 2. a cupronickel coin of Kuwait, the thousandth part of a dinar or the hundredth part of a dirhem. Also, *fil*. [cf. Ar]

fil (fil), n., pl. *filas*. French. son: sometimes used after a name with the meaning of Jr., as in *Dumas fil*. Cf. *père*.

fil-ter (fil'ter), n. 1. any substance, as cloth, paper, porous porcelain, or a layer of charcoal or sand, through which liquid, air, smoke, or the like, is passed to remove suspended matter, impurities, or to recover solids. 2. any device, as a tank, tube, cigarette filter tip, etc., containing such a substance for filtering. 3. Informal, a filter-tipped cigarette. 4. *Photog.* a screen of dyed gelatin or glass for controlling the rendering of color or for diminishing the intensity of light.

5. *Physics.* a device that selectively damps oscillations of other certain frequencies while not affecting the action of a filter. —r.f. 6. to remove by (something) through or through a filter. —r.f. 9. to pass through or as through a filter. —adj. 10. Informal, filter-tipped: a filter cigarette.

[late ME *filtr* < ML *filtrum* felt, piece of felt used to strain liquids < Gmc; see *REAR*] —fil'ter-er, n.

fil-ter-a-ble (fil'ter-a-bol), adj. 1. capable of being filtered. 2. Bacterial, capable of passing through bacteria-retaining filters: a filterable virus. Also, *filtrable*. —fil'ter-a-bil-i-ty, n.

fil'ter-a-ble-ness, n.

fil'ter-a-ble-ness, n. a pond or tank having a false bottom covered with sand and serving to filter river or pond waters.

fil'ter pa-per, porous paper used in filtering.

fil'ter tip, 1. a mouthpiece for a cigarette or cigar with a means of filtering the smoke. 2. a cigarette or cigar with such a mouthpiece. —fil'ter-tipped, adj.

filth (filth), n. 1. foul matter; offensive or disgusting dirt or refuse. 2. a foul condition: to live in filth. 3. moral impurity, corruption, or obscenity. 4. vulgar or obscene language. —filth'i-ness, n.

[ME: OE *filth*]

filth-y (fil'thi), adj., filth-i-er, filth-i-est. 1. characterized by or of the nature of filth; completely or disgustingly dirty. 2. vulgar; obscene: filth-y language. 3. contemptibly offensive, vile, or objectionable. [ME] —filth'i-ly, adv.

—filth'i-ness, n. —Syn. 1. See *dirty*. 2. *dirty*, *porne*.

fil-trate (fil'trat), v., -trated, -trating, n. —r.f. 1. 1. to filter. —n. 2. liquid that has been passed through a filter. [cf. ML *filtratus* filtered, p.p. of *filtrare*] —fil'trat-a-ble, adj.

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fin keel. 3. *Aeron.* a. See *vertical stabilizer*. b. any of certain small, subsidiary structures on an aircraft, usually placed parallel to the plane of symmetry. 4. any of a number of standing ridges, as on a radiator, intended to maximize heat transfer to the surrounding air by exposing a large surface area. 5. any part, as of a mechanism, resembling a fin. 6. *Slang.* a five-dollar bill. 7. Usually, *fin*, (slip) (def. 2). —r.f. 8. to cut off the fins from (a fish). 9. to go vide or equip with a fin or fins. —r.f. 10. to move the fins; lash the water with the fins, as a whale when dying. [ME OE *finn*; cf. D *vin*, LG *finne*; akin to Sw *fena*] —fin'ness, adj. —fin'like, adj.

fin, 1. Finland. 2. Finnish.

fin-a-ble (fin'a-bal), adj. subject to payment of a fine. Also, *fineable*. —fin'a-ble-ness, n.

fin-a-ble (fin'a-bal), v., -gled, -gling. Informal. —r.f. 1. to practice deception or fraud. —r.f. 2. to trick or cheat (a person) (often fol. by out of): He fin-a-gled the backers out of a fortune. 3. to get or achieve (something) by guile or trickery. 4. to wrangle: to fin-a-gle free tickets. [fin'aig (var. of *finag*, alter of *RENGER*) + -le]

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